

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(26)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** October 6, 2015

**FROM:** R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution directing Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department to install aesthetic improvements, including sustainable vegetation, xeriscaping and other Florida-friendly landscaping in an effort to make department structures including administration buildings, pump stations and treatment facilities consistent with and complementary of their environs

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Dennis C. Moss, and Co-Sponsors Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson and Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan.

  
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R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

RAC/smm



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
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Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☐ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_ ) to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(26)  
10-6-15

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION DIRECTING MIAMI-DADE WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT TO INSTALL AESTHETIC IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING SUSTAINABLE VEGETATION, XERISCAPING AND OTHER FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING IN AN EFFORT TO MAKE DEPARTMENT STRUCTURES INCLUDING ADMINISTRATION BUILDINGS, PUMP STATIONS AND TREATMENT FACILITIES CONSISTENT WITH AND COMPLEMENTARY OF THEIR ENVIRONS

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County's Water and Sewer Department ("Department") owns and maintains numerous structures including administration buildings, several very large water and wastewater treatment facilities and over 1000 pump stations some of which are unsightly; and

**WHEREAS**, the condition and appearance of the Department's structures including its surrounding landscaping are important to the quality of life of Miami-Dade residents, employees and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County is a world class community and in order to maintain a world class image, the Department's structures should blend in with the character of the surrounding environs; and

**WHEREAS**, many of these structures do not have sustainable vegetation, xeriscaping and other Florida-friendly landscaping that promotes water conservation and decreases energy consumption while being economical in both installation and maintenance; and

**WHEREAS**, sustainable vegetation, xeriscaping and Florida-friendly landscaping may also serve to camouflage any unsightly structures; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the County to promote water conservation and minimize any negative aesthetic impact of the Department's structures to the public, whenever feasible,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that:

**Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are incorporated in this resolution and are approved.

**Section 2.** It shall be the policy of this Board for the Water and Sewer Department ("Department") to promote water conservation and beautify its structures by installing sustainable vegetation, xeriscaping and other Florida-friendly landscaping at all Department structures including administration buildings, pump stations and treatment facilities.

**Section 3.** This Board hereby directs the Department to consider the surrounding residents and businesses when working to install Florida-friendly landscaping and to camouflage its structures.

**Section 4.** The Department shall endeavor to engage the community in identifying the most appropriate aesthetic treatments and solicit key stakeholder input and when appropriate, accommodate those residents and businesses who may be impacted by the visual blight caused by its structures.

**Section 5.** The Department shall develop a process for accommodating those residents and businesses who may be impacted and include criteria for exceptions from the requirements of this resolution when it may not be appropriate to make aesthetic and beautification investments.

**Section 6.** The Department shall also consider incorporating aesthetically pleasing urban design in new structures and buildings as long as it does not inflate the cost of the new structure or building.

**Section 7.** The Department shall report annually to Neat Streets Miami and this Board on its investments in aesthetics and beautification which shall include a summary of the total investment in Florida-friendly landscaping as compared to the Department's total capital budget. The annual report shall be placed on an agenda of the Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Dennis C. Moss, and the Co-Sponsors are Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson and Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan. It was offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Jean Monestime, Chairman	
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Vice Chairman	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Daniella Levine Cava
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Audrey M. Edmonson
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan
Dennis C. Moss	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	Xavier L. Suarez
Juan C. Zapata	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2015. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this Resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.



Henry N. Gillman